



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
[www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov)

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/621,438	07/18/2003	Steven W. Trovinger	100110105-1	1722
22879	7590	02/16/2006	EXAMINER	
HEWLETT PACKARD COMPANY P O BOX 272400, 3404 E. HARMONY ROAD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ADMINISTRATION FORT COLLINS, CO 80527-2400				BLAKE, CAROLYN T
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
3724				

DATE MAILED: 02/16/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

10/621,438

Applicant(s)

TROVINGER, STEVEN W.

Examiner

Carolyn T. Blake

Art Unit

3724

*-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --***Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 December 2005.
- 2a) This action is FINAL.                    2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) Claim(s) 1-24 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 2-5, 9, 16-19 and 22-24 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1, 6-8 and 10-15 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on 06 December 2005 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All    b) Some \* c) None of:  
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  
2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  
3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.

- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_.  
5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)  
6) Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

## DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is in response to applicant's amendment received on December 6, 2005.
2. The objection to the drawings is withdrawn in view of the amendment.
3. The objection to the specification is withdrawn in view of the amendment.
4. The text of those sections in Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 1, 6-8, 10, 12, 20, 25, and 26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hill (5,397,106) in view of Malachowski et al (5,219,159).

Hill discloses a sheet material trimming apparatus (see FIG 1) comprising: a first cutter (12') arranged to trim an edge (11) of a sheet material (1) in a first direction (shown by the arrows in the first step); and a second cutter (17') arranged to trim an edge (7) of a sheet material (1) in a second direction (shown by the arrows in the second step) different from the first direction. Hill fails to disclose a drive roller as claimed. However, Malachowski et al disclose a drive system having a drive roller (24) for advancing sheet material (100) in a first direction by rotation of the drive roller (24) and for translating the sheet material (100) in a second direction by translation of the

drive roller (24). See FIGS 1A-1C. This drive system aligns sheets that are out of alignment. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide the Malachowski et al drive system as a station on the Hill apparatus prior to the cutting steps for the purpose of aligning sheets before cutting.

7. Claims 11 and 13-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hill in view of Malachowski as applied to claims 1, 6, and 12 above, and further in view of Kamprath et al (5,278,624).

The modified Hill device teaches a device substantially as claimed, but fails to disclose the drive shaft includes an external thread and the drive roller includes an internal thread. However, Kamprath et al <sup>disclose</sup> /a drive system for moving and aligning sheets comprising a drive shaft (48) with an external thread (52) and a drive roller (14) with an internal thread. If unrestrained, the roller would translate with shaft rotation. However, with a holding or stopping mechanism, the roller rotates in a single location. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide an external thread on the drive shaft and internal thread on the roller of the modified Hill device, as taught by Kamprath et al, and include appropriate stops on the extents for the purpose of better controlling rotational and translational movement of the roller.

### ***Conclusion***

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Carolyn T. Blake whose telephone number is (571) 272-

Art Unit: 3724

4503. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday, 8:00 AM to 5:30 PM, alternating Fridays off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Allan N. Shoap can be reached on (571) 272-4514. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

CB

CB  
February 9, 2006

as/aj

Allan N. Shoap  
Supervisory Patent Examiner  
Group 3700